

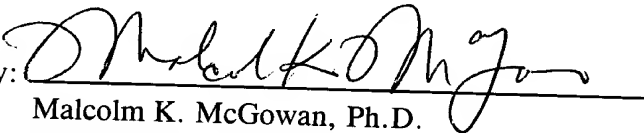
**REMARKS**

By the present Amendment, claim 9 has been amended to correct a minor typographical error. Claim 10 has been amended to correct multiple dependency. No new matter has been added.

In the event that there are any questions concerning this amendment, or the application in general, the Examiner is respectfully urged to telephone the undersigned so that prosecution of the application may be expedited. Favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By:   
Malcolm K. McGowan, Ph.D.  
Registration No. 39,300

P.O. Box 1404  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1404  
(703) 836-6620

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**Attachment to PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT dated April 6, 2001**

**Marked-up Claims 9 and 10**

9. (Amended) A method according to claim 7 that [reduce] reduces the biological activity of SOCS-2 and/or CIS comprising purified or recombinant SOCS-2 and/or CIS and proteins, optionally isolated, that link SOCS-2 and/or CIS to signaling molecules dependent on GH.

10. (Amended) A method according to claim 7[-9] to increase cellular sensitivity to GH characterized [characterised] by a reduction of levels of SOCS-2 and/or CIS.